

Message Text

SECRET

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60

ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 NSC-07

SS-20 DPW-01 DRC-01 /092 W
----- 089162

R 271510Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6418
INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON
AMEMBASSY JIDDA

S E C R E T CAIRO 2675

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCLR EG VS

SUBJ: GOE REQUEST FOR HELP IN OVERFLIGHT
OF SOUTH VIET-NAM

REF: SAIGON 5175 (NOTAL)

1. DURING MEETING WITH FAHMY TODAY, I REMINDED HIM THAT AMBASSADOR MARTIN HAS BEEN EXPLORING WAYS OF BEING HELPFUL TO THE GOE IN ITS DESIRE TO OVERFLY THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM. AS I WAS SURE THE MINISTER WAS AWARE, THIS IS NO EASY TASK. AMBASSADOR MARTIN HAD SUCCEEDED, HOWEVER, IN PERSUADING FOREIGN MINISTER BAC TO CONSIDER HOW RVN MIGHT BE OF HELP TO GOE. I THEN OUTLINED BAC'S PROPOSAL THAT GOE REQUEST SAG TO PERMIT EGYPTAIR OVERFLIGHTS AND SUGGESTED THAT, IN VIEW SLUGGISHNESS OF VARIOUS BUREAUCRACIES THAT MIGHT BE INVOLVED, GOE SOUND OUT SAUDIS WITHOUT DEALY TO ASCERTAIN IF THEY WOULD BE WILLING MAKE SUCH A REQUEST TO THE RVN IN GOE'S BEHALF. I SAID IT WAS AMBASSADOR MARTIN'S PERSONAL VIEW THAT BY FOLLOWING SUCH PROCEDURE, RVN APPROVAL WOULD PROBABLY BE FORTHCOMING.

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2. FAHMY EXPRESSED DEEP APPRECIATION FOR AMB MARTIN'S EFFORTS. HE GAVE HIS TENTATIVE APPROVAL TO FOLLOW THE PROCEDURE BAC PROPOSED, SUBJECT TO PRESIDENT SADAT'S CONCURRENCE. HE ASKED THAT UNTIL THE LATTER IS FORTHCOMING, FAHMY'S RESPONSE NOT YET BE CONVEYED TO THE RVN. HE HOPED SADAT'S CONCURRENCE CAN BE OBTAINED IN NEXT DAY OR SO AND REQUISITE ACTION WITH SAUDIS CAN BE PUT IN TRAIN.

3. AT ONE POINT FAHMY SAID THAT SO LONG AS PROCEDURE DOES NOT REQUIRE FORMAL EGYPTIAN RECOGNITION OF RVN AT THIS TIME, HE THOUGHT THE PRESIDENT WILL APPROVE. I POINTED OUT TO HIM THAT AT SOME POINT GOE IS GOING TO HAVE TO COME TO GRIPS WITH THE MATTER OF RECOGNIZING RVN, ESPECIALLY IF IT IS BENEFITTING FROM RVN CONCESSION IN PERMITTING EGYPTAIR OVERFLIGHTS. FAHMY SAID HE WAS AWARE OF THIS, BUT WOULD FACE THAT PROBLEM WHEN IT ARISES.
EILTS

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NNN

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